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PROPOSALS IN REGARD TO VIRGINIA.

Virginia

In Pursuance of His Ma^{ties} Commands it is humbly offered,

1. That three Companys of soldiers may constantly remain there as also a Catch with thirty men. And that together with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Major General, Chaplane, Chirurgeon &c. they be placed upon the Establishment here in England in the same manner and proportion as in Jamaica.

[On the margin opposite section 1, is this comment].

Proposal rec^d from y^e Lord Culpeper 13th of Dec. 1678. and read the 14th following. Agreed only but two foot Companys instead of three.

2. That there be one sufficient Fort erected there in the most convenient place to secure Shipping whereby the King may be safe from Rebellion, His Customs more secure at home & the Country less liable to invasions and losses. And to this End that his Ma'ty be pleased to write a possitive Letter to the Assembly, And as our Encouragement to them to do the rest that his Ma'ty be pleased for such time as shall be necessary to apply the Quit Rents and Escheats &c. when the Patentees are agreed with, to that use as also His two third parts of all Fines and Forfeitures which by almost all past acts are granted to themselves and not to the Crown the residue to be made up there either by an Imposition on liquor imported or otherwise regard had to the poverty of the place by the late Rebellion and the present Constitution of affairs there.

3. That there be towns built there one on each great River if possible, And in order thereunto that after sufficient notice to provide Warehouses and other conveniences, no ships whatsoever be permitted to load or unload but at the said places where the towns are designed the chiefest whereof to be near the above-mentioned fort. And in case different Interests hinder y^e

Assembly there from agreeing the places His Ma'ty upon Report of the case, to direct them and to grant them all necessary privileges as to Trade and Markets but not to Incorporate any, or to give them any share in the Government and particularly not to choose Burgesses

[On the margin opposite section 3, is this comment.]

Agreed.

4. That all the Laws of the Country be forthwith perused here and out of them a body compiled with such alterations as shall be thought fitting and sent by the Lord Culpeper under the Great Seal of England to be confirmed there wherein all defects in the stile may be amended and all forfeitures granted to the King only. And particularly wherein several clauses in the Act for raising the two shillings per hogshead on Tobacco exported thence for support of the Government there may be explained and amended and several frauds hindered. As also to send a general Act for Naturalization and to repeal the Act of four pounds damages for defaming the Governor and Council and to send another in its place more suitable.

[On the margin opposite section 4, is this comment].

There is not time enough to peruse all ye Laws, neither are they all here: therefore those now in being are to remain in force, till that the Lord Culpeper after his arrival there, shall with the advice of Council, have sent a body of Laws, such as His Ma'ty shall approve of, to be enacted there. In the meantime let the Act of y^e Revenue be now next amended as is proposed also the Act of Naturalization and the Act about the Governor &c. As also such others as may be found to be absolutely necessary. See about their personal estates plundered & condemned by the Rebels.

5. That his Ma'ty be pleased to send a general Act of Indemnity for all persons and Estates (Bacons only excepted) and those who suffered on legal Trials by Jury, rendering two or three of the Ring leaders only, incapable of Imployment. And for servants that no other advantage be taken against them, by their Masters under pretence of any law of the Country. But that the Year of Rebellion be not accounted as part of their time of service. And lastly that there be a clause in the nature

of the Act for Judicial proceedings to confirm all Judgement and process of Law notwithstanding the misnameing any person for Governor that was not Governor and notwithstanding the Counsellors not having been as they ought appointed, or confirmed by the King without which all things will be loose, it having been as I am credily informed constantly omitted, by S^r William Berkley ever since his Ma^{ties} Restoration.

6. That there be care taken to discharge all Moneys remaining due to the soldiers remaining there now, and to the Country for Quartering them. And that they may be punctually paid, for the future as also that the old Powder, now there may be changed for new and the defects of the stores to be supplied.

[On the margin opposite section 6, is this comment].

Agreed. And the Lord Culpeper is Ordered to take y^e Accounts and see both Soldiers and the Country only paid.

7. That the Patentees of both grants especially the Latter to the Lords Culpeper and Arlington, be forthwith agreed with, and the Patents taken in to the intent that in pursuance of the Engagement to the Country the Lord Culpeper may deliver it up vacated with his own hands.

[On the margin opposite section 7, is this comment].

Agreed. And the Lord Treasurer is forthwith to see it done.

8. That in case of War or great dangers no Ships be permitted to go to or return from Virginia but with sufficient Convoys or with Fleets.

[On the margin opposite section 8, is this comment].

Agreed.

9. These are the chief specific points applicable to Virginia only, and the present Conjuncture there, to which adding the General heads and Powers agreed on in my Lord Carlisle's Commission and Instructions as a pattern for the Rest, both as to the Government, and the comfortable subsistence of the Governor the affairs of that Colony will be put into a good method and the Lord Culpeper's dispatches quickly dispatched.

[On the margin opposite section 9, is this comment].

Agreed, and to be done forth with as is proposed.

These heads were delivered in January 1677 to M^r Sec'y Coventry and read at the Committee of Foreign affairs in May

last but by reason of my lord Treasurers absence nothing done. But upon the 11th August upon a full debate upon every one, It was resolved as in the margin, and I conceive, so set down by M^r Secretary.

[On the margin opposite is this comment].

Agreed, taking care that the Estates of the persons pardoned, be liable to their debts. And that the loyal persons may have their Estates again.

The following lesser points were also agreed:

1. That an Order about the Impost of Tobacco demanded by M^r Sandys and M^r Brown to be allowed them in Virginia might be annulled.
2. That all Tobaccos shipped in Virginia should pay Virginia duties.
3. That the presents for the Indian princes be forthwith delivered to the Lord Culpeper.
4. That the King would send a Mace and Sword to the Country as he had done in other places and furniture for a Chapel destroyed by the Rebels as my Lord Carlisle had.
5. That the King would send furniture for two hundred dragoons and fifty horse, with some tents, the Country mounting theirs at their charge on occasion.
6. That the business of the Auditor be settled wherein the Country is exceedingly disturbed and as I conceive His Ma^{ties} concerns prejudiced.
7. That all writs may be issued out in the King's name only if it be practicable.

A true Copy teste
W. Davis